

From: C Jeffery Woodbury
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 12:54am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to provide some public input into the proposed antitrust settlement for Microsoft. I understand that one remedy currently under consideration would be to allow Microsoft to make a donation of computers running Microsoft Windows operating system, as well as a variety of Microsoft software packages, to certain "underprivileged" school systems. It must be quite obvious to all concerned, however, that in the long run this proposal would only serve to benefit Microsoft greatly and more importantly, would augment, not hinder, their monopoly by facilitating their expansion into the education market! What is quite obvious is that if Microsoft is forced to contribute technology to needy school systems, that technology should not be based on Microsoft products, but instead on a competitor's product. Thus, either Microsoft be obligated to provide a CASH donation, allowing educators to CHOOSE their platform of choice, or they be obligated to make a donation of a competitor's (e.g., Apple Computer) product, NOT THEIR OWN.

It is my hope that you will recognize the gravity of this proposed settlement, and afford this suggestion serious consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. C. Jeffery Woodbury
Dept of Neurobiology
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
3500 Terrace St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15261